CHAPTER 345.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE WORKING OF THE PUBLIC ROADS OF LEE COUNTY BY CONVICTS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Work on roads or other public works.

Convicts from other counties.

Convicts sentenced to road work.

Proviso: acceptance of convicts discretionary.

Care, maintenance, management and working of convicts.

Safe-keeping.

Purchase of machinery and accessories.

Section 1. Whenever by any court of competent jurisdiction in the county of Lee any person is sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor, and when not otherwise provided in said sentence, it shall be lawful for the board of county commissioners of said county to require the said convict to work on the public roads of said county or other public works therein, as designated by said board of commissioners, and the Board of Commissioners of Lee County are authorized and empowered to accept convicts sentenced in the courts of other counties in the State of North Carolina and work the said convicts upon the public roads and other public works, as designated by the board of commissioners, in the county of Lee, in all respects as if the said convicts were sentenced by a court of Lee County, and the boards of county commissioners in the respective counties of the State are authorized and empowered to deliver said convicts to the proper authorities of the county of Lee, to be worked upon the public roads or other public works of said county, when no other disposition of the said convict is made in the sentence pronounced on said convict, or when in said sentence or judgment the public roads of Lee County are designated; and it shall be lawful for the courts of Lee County and of other counties in the State to sentence convicts to hard labor on the public roads and other public works of the county of Lee: Provided, nothing herein shall be construed to compel the board of commissioners to accept convicts from other counties in the State or to work the convicts of the county of Lee, except at the discretion of the said board of commissioners.

Sec. 2. The Board of Commissioners of Lee County are authorized and empowered to make such rules and regulations for the care, maintenance, management and working of the said convicts as may be deemed necessary or proper, and compel obedience to the same; and may employ superintendents, guards, attendants and help, as in the judgment of the said board may be required, and fix the compensation of the same; and the said convicts may be kept in the county jail or such other place or places as the board of commissioners may provide.

Sec. 3. The board of commissioners are authorized and empowered to purchase such machinery, implements, tools, supplies, equipment and accessories as may be proper or necessary to work the said convicts or comply with this chapter and carry out the purposes thereof, as they may deem proper to secure the best results and to improve the said roads with the greatest economy